

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:**

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A messaging platform, for example a platform storing email or voicemail, is provided with an overload controller which detects an overload condition and then acts to limit the loading of the platform. The overload controller may be associated with a control interface used, for example, for communication between a service provider and the message platform, and may selectively deny some of the requests received over that interface when the overload condition is detected.